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Goodwin J. Knight
Governor

State of California

Department of Employment

H. W. STEWART
Director

800 CAPITOL AVENUE
SACRAMENTO 14, CALIFORNIA

July 18, 1958

Mr. Henry Anderson
670 Doane Avenue
Claremont, California

Dear Mr. Anderson:

There has come to my attention a paper entitled "SOCIAL JUSTICE AND FOREIGN CONTRACT LABOR" under date of May 21, 1958, of which you are apparently the author. I am primarily concerned with the following statements made on page three of your article:

> "I have asked for work picking lemons in an area where 500 braceros were employed at this task. I was told there were no jobs.
>
> "I have talked with an American citizen who asked for farm work at five Farm Placement Offices between Los Angeles and El Centro at a time when there were more than 20,000 braceros in this region. This American citizen was told there were no jobs."

The policy of this Department is to provide priority of job opportunities to available domestic farm labor. Mexican Nationals may not be used in farm work if there is a qualified domestic worker ready, able and available to do such work. I regret that you did not call these alleged violations to my attention for in such instances it is our express policy to refer the domestic worker to the job and the Mexican Nationals are returned to the camps in which they reside. The local offices of the Department of Employment are instructed to enforce this policy.

In order that I may review this matter further I would appreciate your advising me specifically as to the place of employment where you requested work and were allegedly refused. Further, I would appreciate your advising me of the name and address of the American citizen who you allege unsuccessfully asked for farm work at several of our Farm Placement Offices and

thereby failed to obtain placement. I would be interested in discussing with him the circumstances under which this situation allegedly occurred in order that I assure myself concerning the effectiveness of the Department's policy of referring qualified domestic farm workers in preference to Mexican Nationals in job opportunities in agricultural areas throughout the State.

I am advised that you visited the offices of the Farm Placement Section in Sacramento where you were extended full courtesy by the staff and furnished such information as you requested. I would think it was only natural that having been extended such courtesy you would have been moved to reciprocate by calling to the attention of either myself or the staff of the Farm Placement Section the above alleged violations which primarily concern this Department. I would further assume that any responsible person preparing an article relating to social justice would have been equally concerned that he apprize those whom he charges with dereliction of duty in order that they be given an opportunity to review the material and to take corrective action if necessary. This you have failed to do. However, I am nevertheless concerned regarding the above quoted portions of this article and would appreciate your complying with my request for information as set forth above.

Sincerely,

H. W. Stewart
Director